



ASPIRE

Scaling up of the Targeting Hardcore Poor Program

Report and Monitoring Plan

Milestone 2

**Submitted to
USAID**

**by
Bandhan Konnagar**

Report

ASPIRE

Scaling-up of the Targeting Hardcore Poor Program



Supported by:
Development Innovation Venture
of
USAID

Award-AID-OAA-F-14-00029 "Scaling-up Targeting the Hard-core Poor (THP)"

Project Year 1
2014-15 (September,1-2014 to August,31-2015)

Milestone No.2
[Quarter 1: September,1 2014 – November,14 2014]

The milestone No.2 deliverable

- i] Up-dated Implementation Report
[In this file]
- ii] Bandhan's In-built Monitoring system including continuous monitoring plan of the project
[File attached]

Up-dated Implementation Report

Field implementation of Scaling-up of the THP program has been started in Bihar and Odisha in India

Quarter 1

- st
- A] Field branch offices have been set up in the 1st month of 2014-15 i.e. September '14.
 - B] Staff deployment and staff training have been completed in this period.
 - C] Beneficiaries are identified



Direct implementation has been started in both the states – Odisha and Bihar in India. Seven (7) field level branch Offices are established and operational. Bihar has 5 branch offices and Odisha has 2 branch offices which are residential offices. Offices are arranged, field staff appointed & deployed and staff orientation training are completed as per plan. As of now Total 7 Branch-In-Charge and 18 Community Organisers (COs) are working from those branches, detail information are tabled below.

State-wise target coverage of beneficiaries and set up of field offices and staff

Description	Bihar	Odisha	Total
	Q1 of Y1 (2014-15)		
Number of beneficiary families (inclusion of new beneficiaries into program)	211	48	259
Number of field branch offices set up & operational	5	2	7
Number of Area Coordinator functional	1	Nil	1
Number of Community Organiser functional	13	5	18
Number of Branch In-charge functional	5	2	7

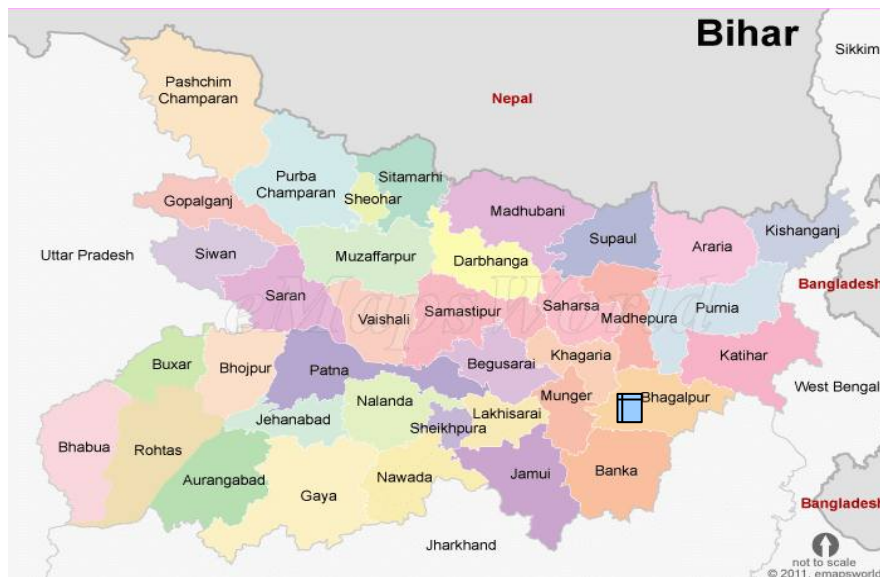
Names of project branch offices in Bihar are Kahalgaon, Shibnaryanpur, Ghoga, Sabour, Naugachhia branch; for Odisha branches are Rajkonika & Pattamundai . The districts are Bhagalpur (about 160 km from state HQ Patna) in Bihar and Kendrapara (about 90 km from state HQ Bhubaneswar) in Odisha. In Bhagalpur district of Bihar the blocks are Naugachhia, Kahalgaon & Sabour where the branch offices are located presently. In Kendrapara district of Odisha blocks are Rajkonika & Patamundai.

During the beneficiary selection process Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) method has been applied and people are involved in verifying information for identification & final selection. Monitoring of PRA and selection of beneficiaries has been by the AC concerned and HO officials. Pro Poor Support committee (Ati Daridra Sahayak Committee – ADSC) are formed to monitor and support beneficiaries – poorest women and to look after the progressions. Total 15 ADSCs are formed in only Bihar where every branch office area is having 3 ADSCs each.

Project Areas in India

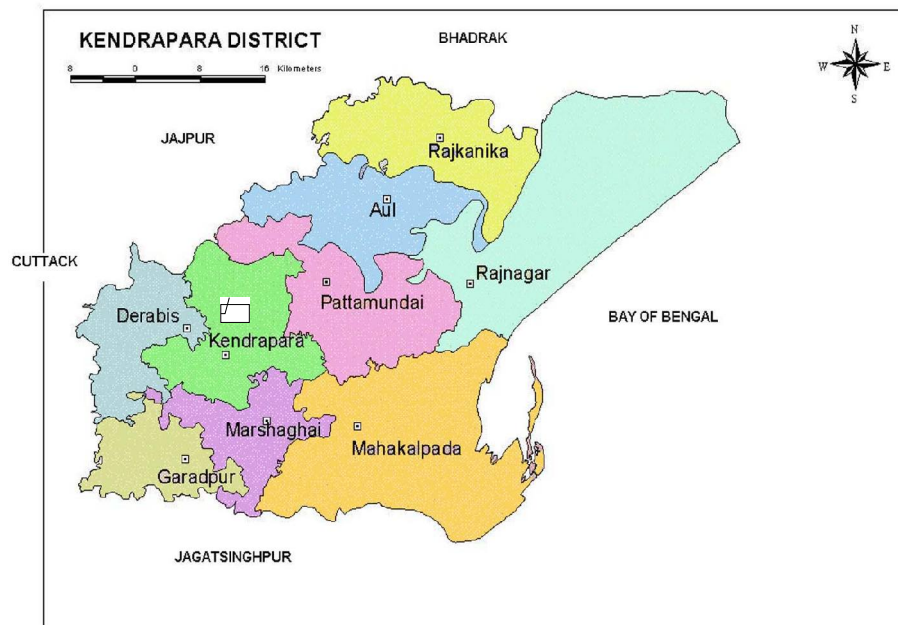
State : Bihar

District : Bhagalpur



State : Odisha

District : Kendrapara



Bandhan and USAID Project

Period: September 2014 – November 2014 (3 months)

Description	Bihar		Odisha		Project	
	Current	Cumulative	Current	Cumulative	Current	Cumulative
1) Branches opened	5	5	2	2	7	7
2) Beneficiaries served :						
- 2(i) Beneficiaries selected	211	211	48	48	259	259
- 2(ii) Beneficiaries trained (<i>Confidence Building & Enterprise development</i>)	124	124	-	-	124	124
- 2(iii) Beneficiaries given enterprise assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
3) Number of beneficiaries financially included	-	-	-	-	-	-
4) Average monthly income of beneficiaries served	16 USD	16 USD	16 USD	16 USD	16 USD	16 USD
5) Number of beneficiaries that have "Graduated"	-	-	-	-	-	-
6) Number of beneficiaries that have dropped out of program	-	-	-	-	-	-
7) Interfacing with stakeholders and Partners	-	-	1	1	1	1
8) Advocacy Resource Materials(Process document) *	1	1	1	1	1	1
9) Integration of THP model	-	-	-	-	-	-
10) Note (if any):						
* Advocacy Resource Material is common document at present (for both states) which is documentation activity that is just have been started.						

Process Documentation of Pilots

Project has started implementing project directly in Bihar and Odisha where field level activities are recorded, documented and analysed for quality outcomes and replications by the others in future. Bandhan has been partnering with J-PAL SA at IFMR in India to make documentations and sharing the same with others for advocacy and for that interfacing to be done in a planned manner. Advocacy purpose meetings, sharing documents and bring in the interested partners and organisations are the tasks for which J-PAL is preparing their set up to roll out. As in future advocacy resource material is the document of the project process started and to be continued which is just started with the help of J-PAL.

Two field-based project managers (to be based in Bihar and Odisha respectively) have been recently hired to lead this exercise, with close support from J-PAL's Delhi-based policy team. Initial field visits to both states have been made with the objective of visiting the branches, interacting with the staff and observing the roll-out of the programme. Field visits were made to Bhagalpur, Bihar from October 14-18, 2014 and from November 13-14, 2014. A field visit to Kendrapara, Odisha was made from November 10-14, 2014.

Advocacy

We have started preliminary outreach activities for facilitation of the scale-up of the THP programme in Bihar and Odisha. As part of our mandate to prepare documents for communication and advocacy, we have prepared a presentation on evidence from TUP studies (with a focus on West Bengal). The policy brief of THP evaluation by J-PAL affiliates in West Bengal is now available on our website [here](#).

J-PAL's team met Mr. Baijayant 'Jay' Panda (Member of Parliament, Kendrapara constituency) and his team in November to share updates and progress from Kendrapara, Odisha. Mr. Panda has confirmed his presence in the launch event for the programme being planned in Kendrapara in early January 2015. Work has begun on identifying and inviting the District level Government functionaries, e.g., District Collector, Divisional Commissioner and Rural Development Department officials for the programme launch event. This will help us in getting buy-in for this programme from local functionaries right from the beginning.

In Bihar, the process of identifying key stakeholders for the programme launch event and further scale-up has been initiated. Meetings and field visits with them will be planned soon.

